

FIG. 1

100

102 RECEIVE AN INPUT ORDER MESSAGE (E.G., ORDER STATUS INQUIRY) OVER A NETWORK, INCLUDING A DOCUMENT ORGANIZED IN A PREDEFINED FORMAT (E.G., XML DOCUMENT).

104 OBTAIN A DATA SET (E.G., ORDER NUMBER AND CUSTOMER ID) FROM THE INPUT ORDER MESSAGE BY USING THE PREDEFINED FORMAT OF THE DOCUMENT IN THE INPUT ORDER MESSAGE.

106 OBTAIN A RESULTING OUTPUT DATA SET (E.G., ORDER STATUS AND LOCATION) BY PROCESSING THE DATA SET OBTAINED FROM THE INPUT ORDER MESSAGE.

108 PROVIDE OVER THE NETWORK THE OUTPUT DATA SET IN A RESPONSE MESSAGE (I.E., OUTPUT MESSAGE) INCLUDING AN OUTPUT DOCUMENT ORGANIZED IN A PREDEFINED FORMAT (E.G., XML FORMAT) SUITABLE FOR USE BY AN ORDERING APPLICATION.

FIG. 2

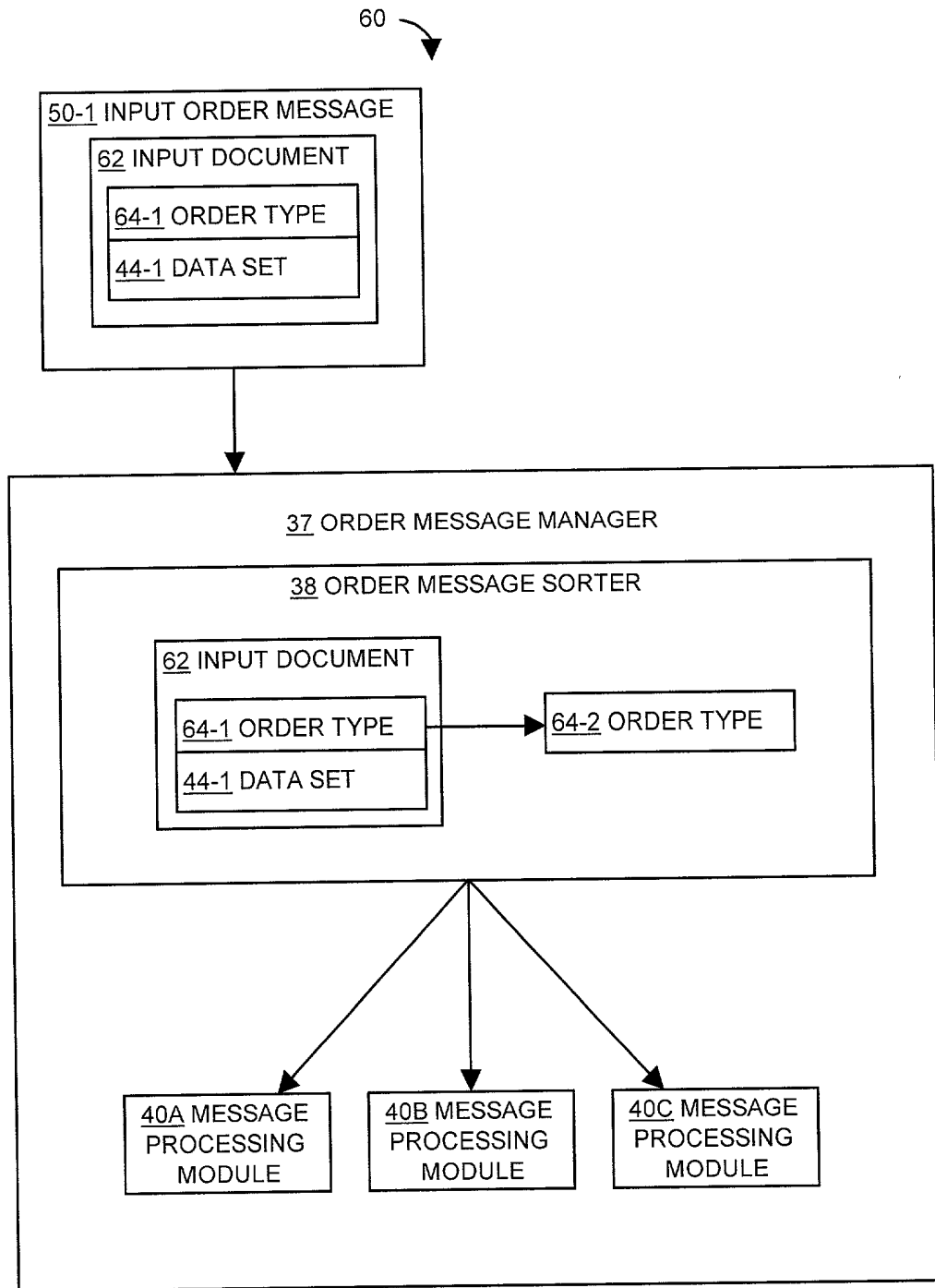


FIG. 3

70

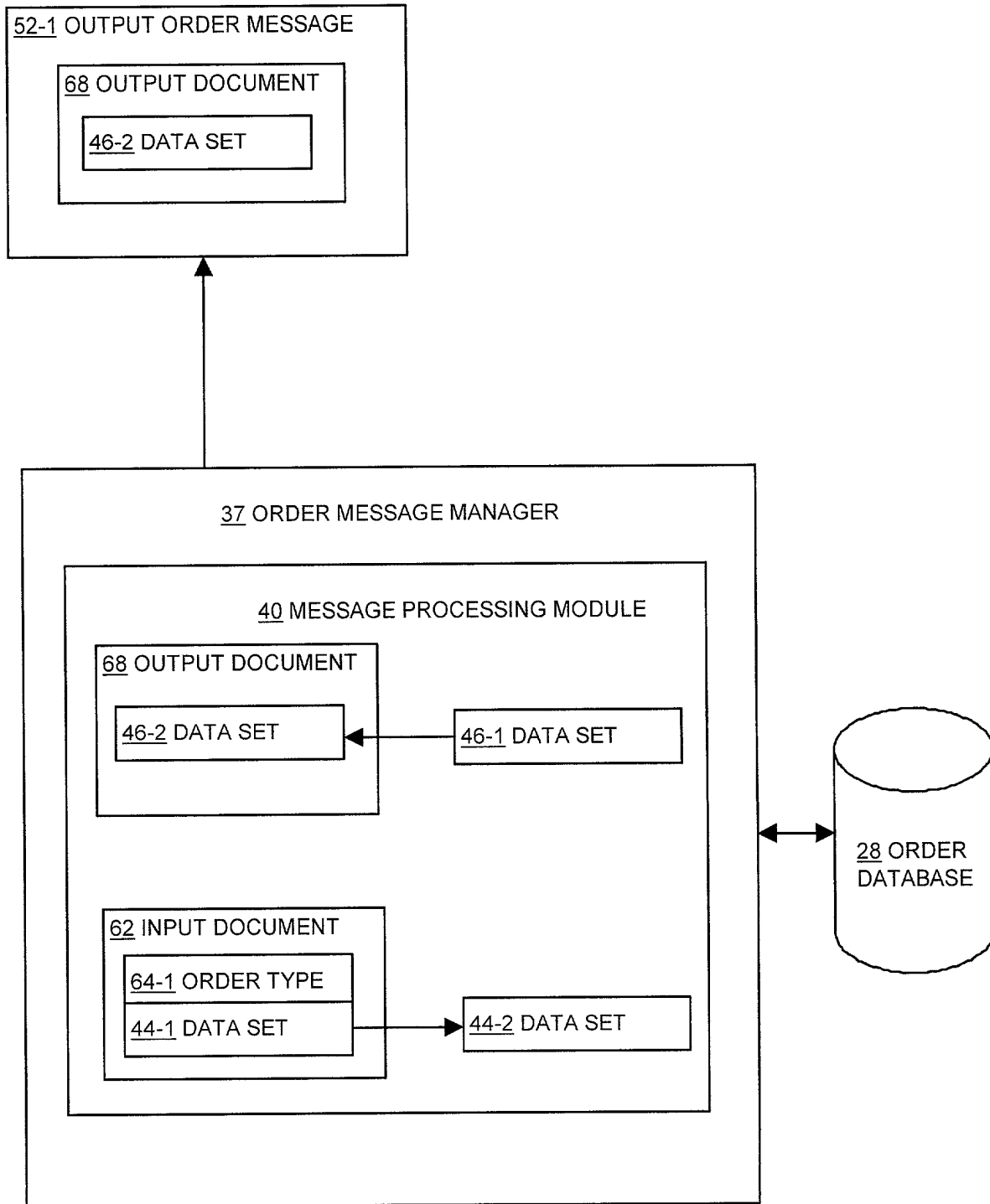


FIG. 4

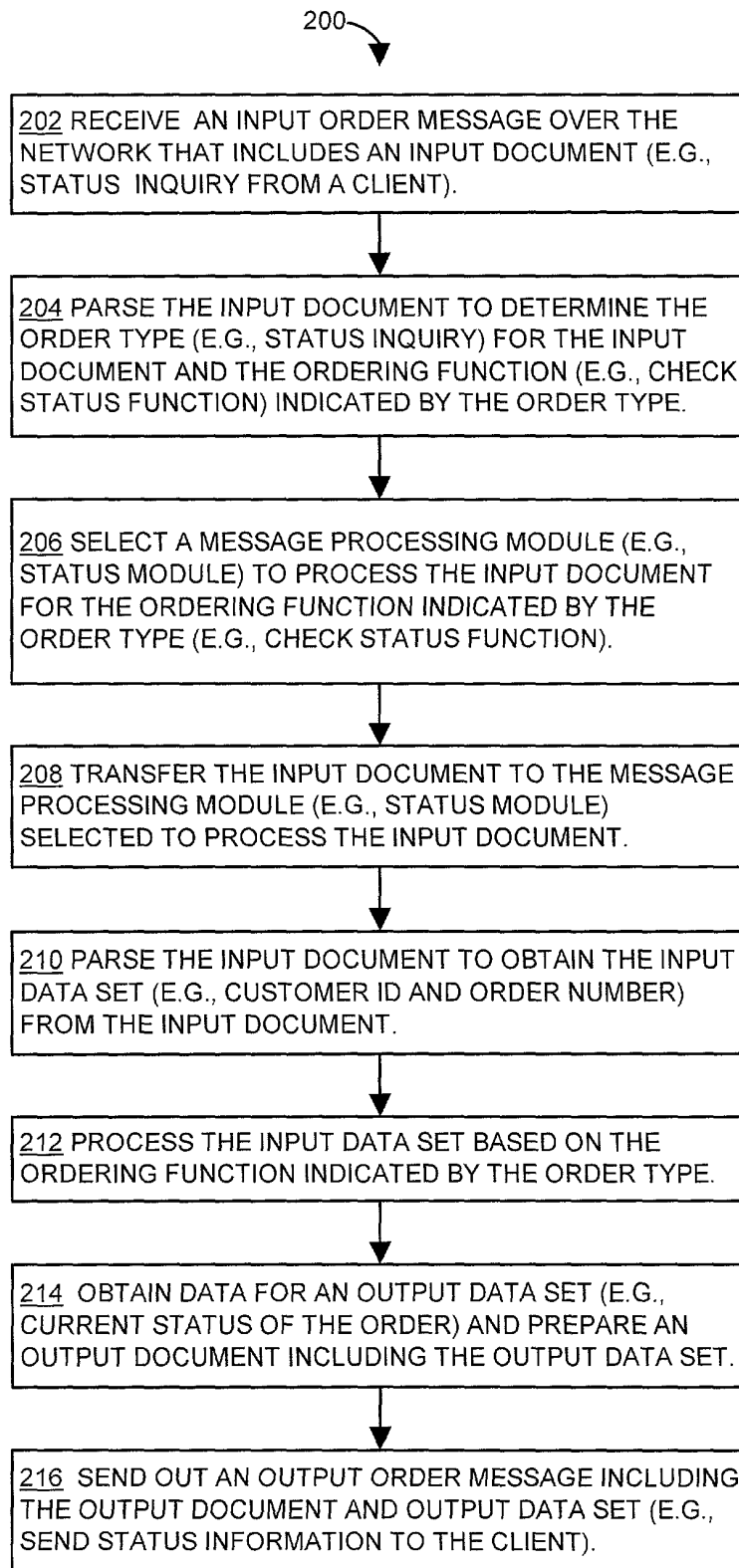


FIG. 5

300-1

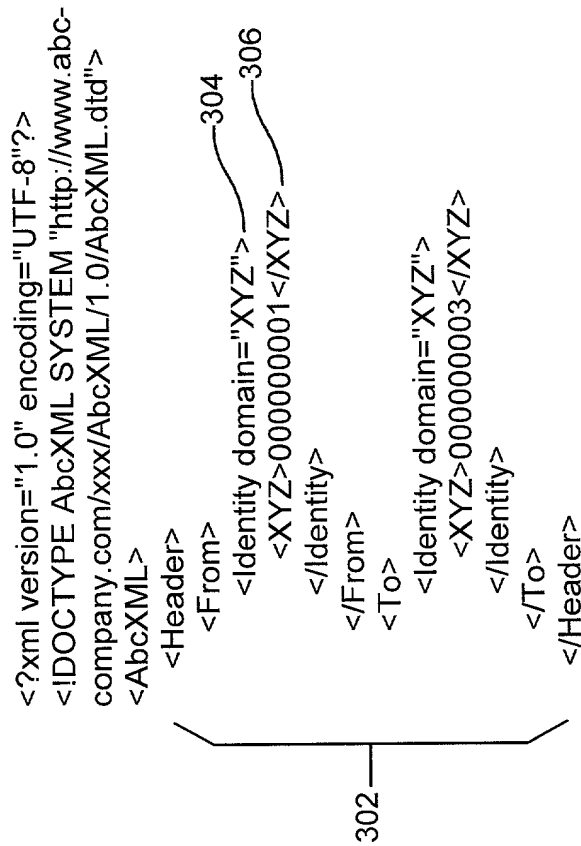


FIG. 6A

300-2

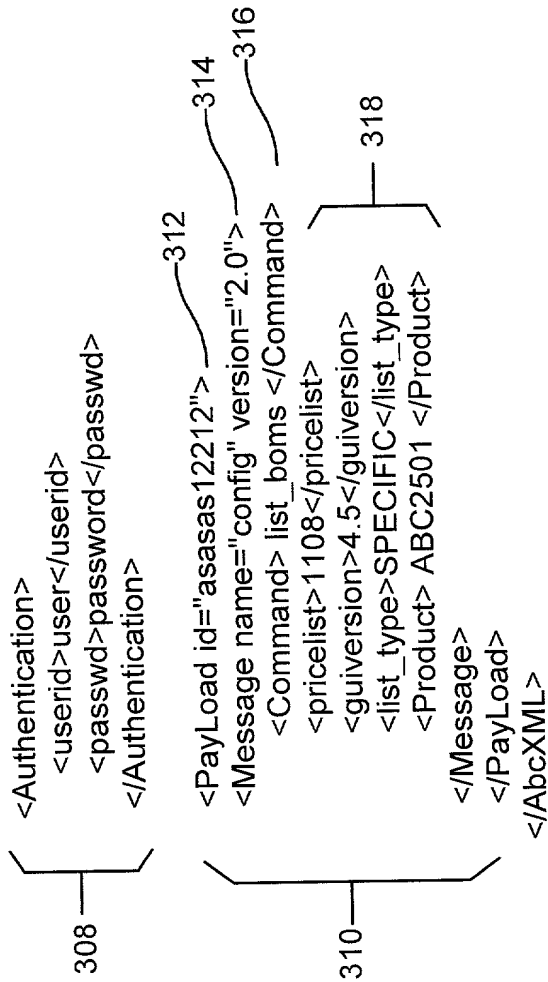


FIG. 6B

330-1

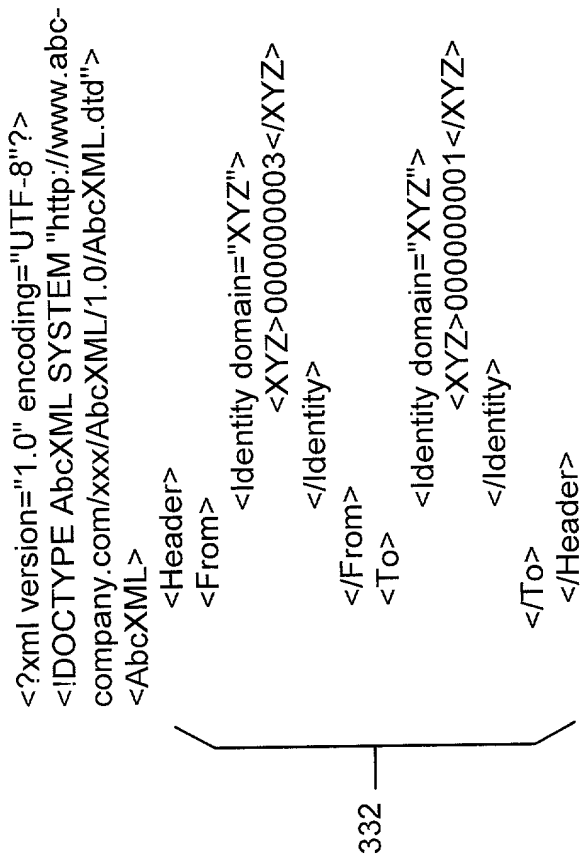


FIG. 7A

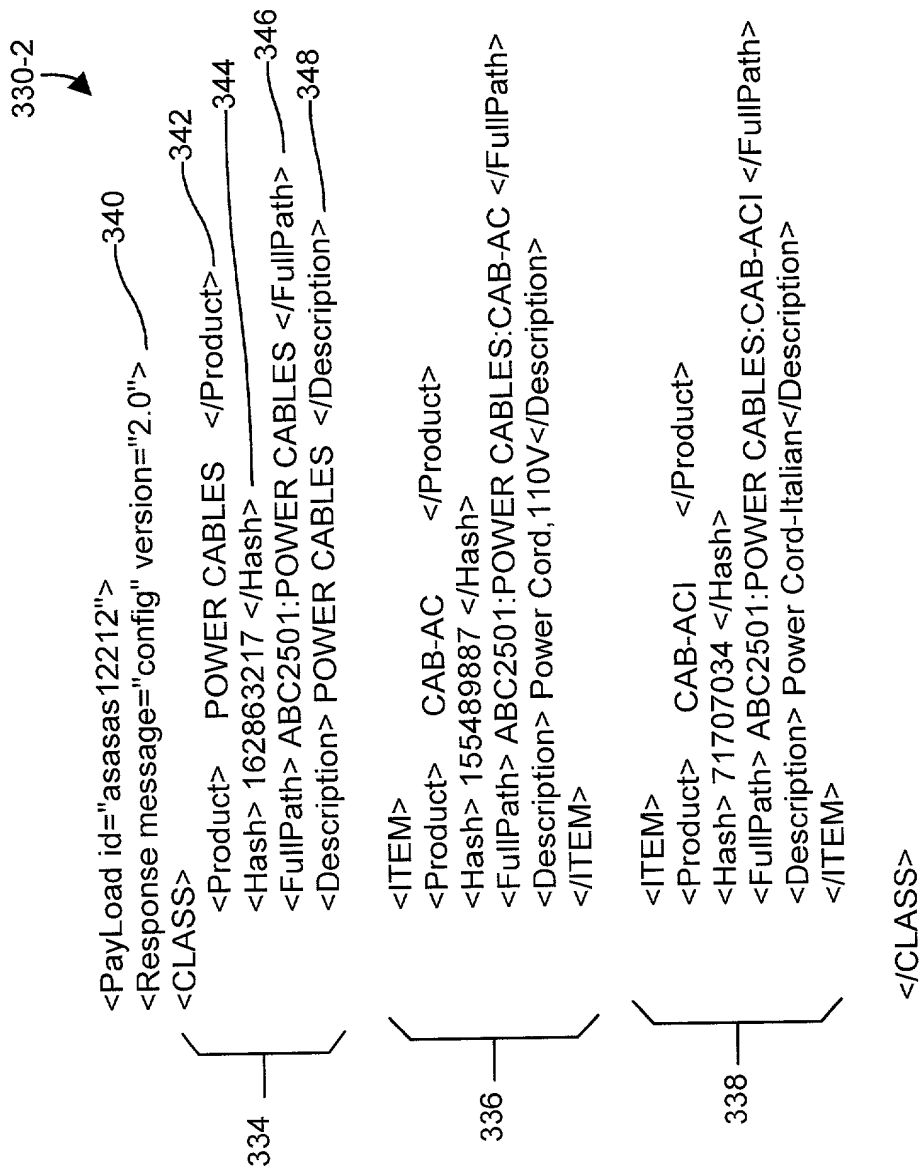


FIG. 7B

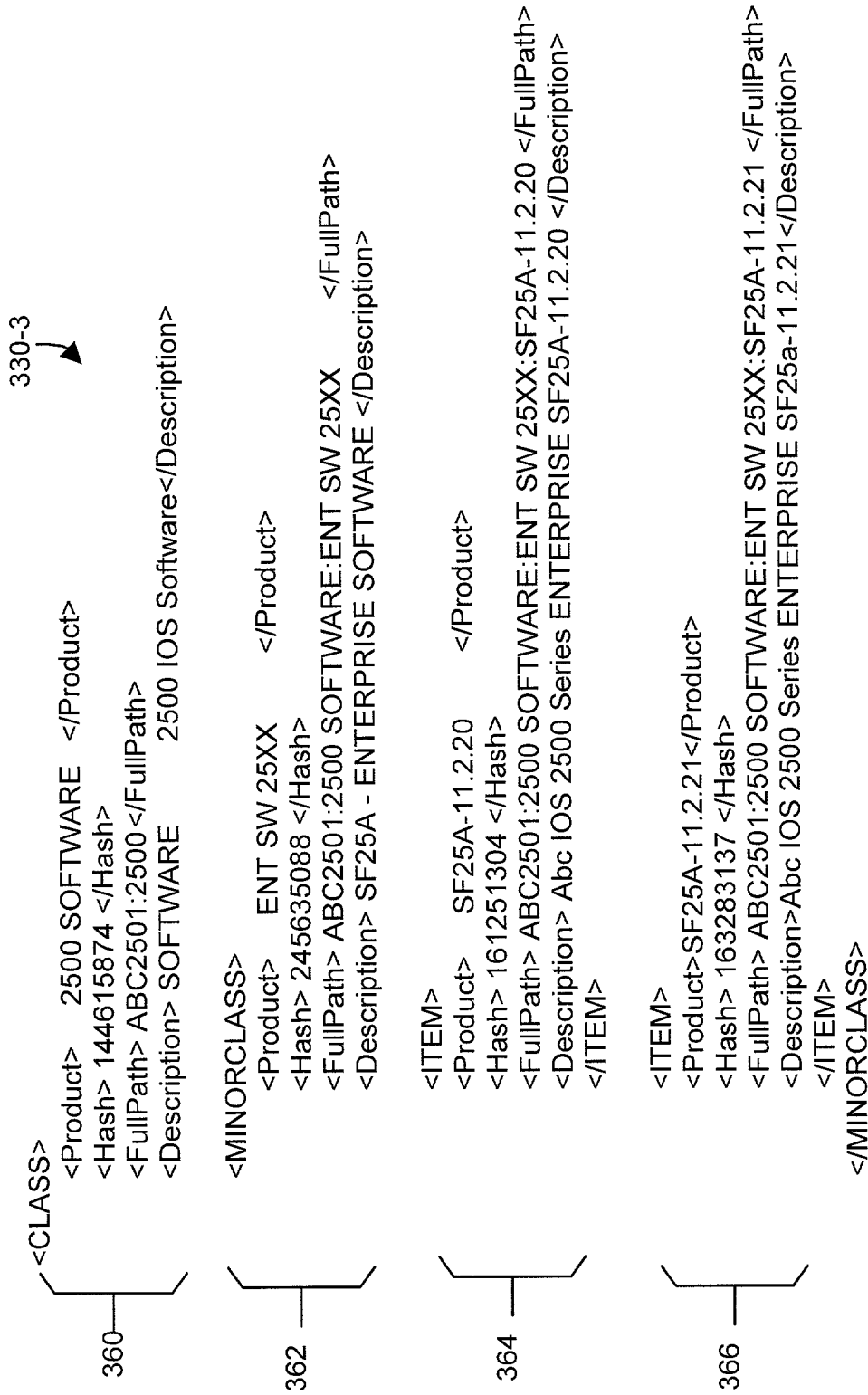


FIG. 7C

330-4

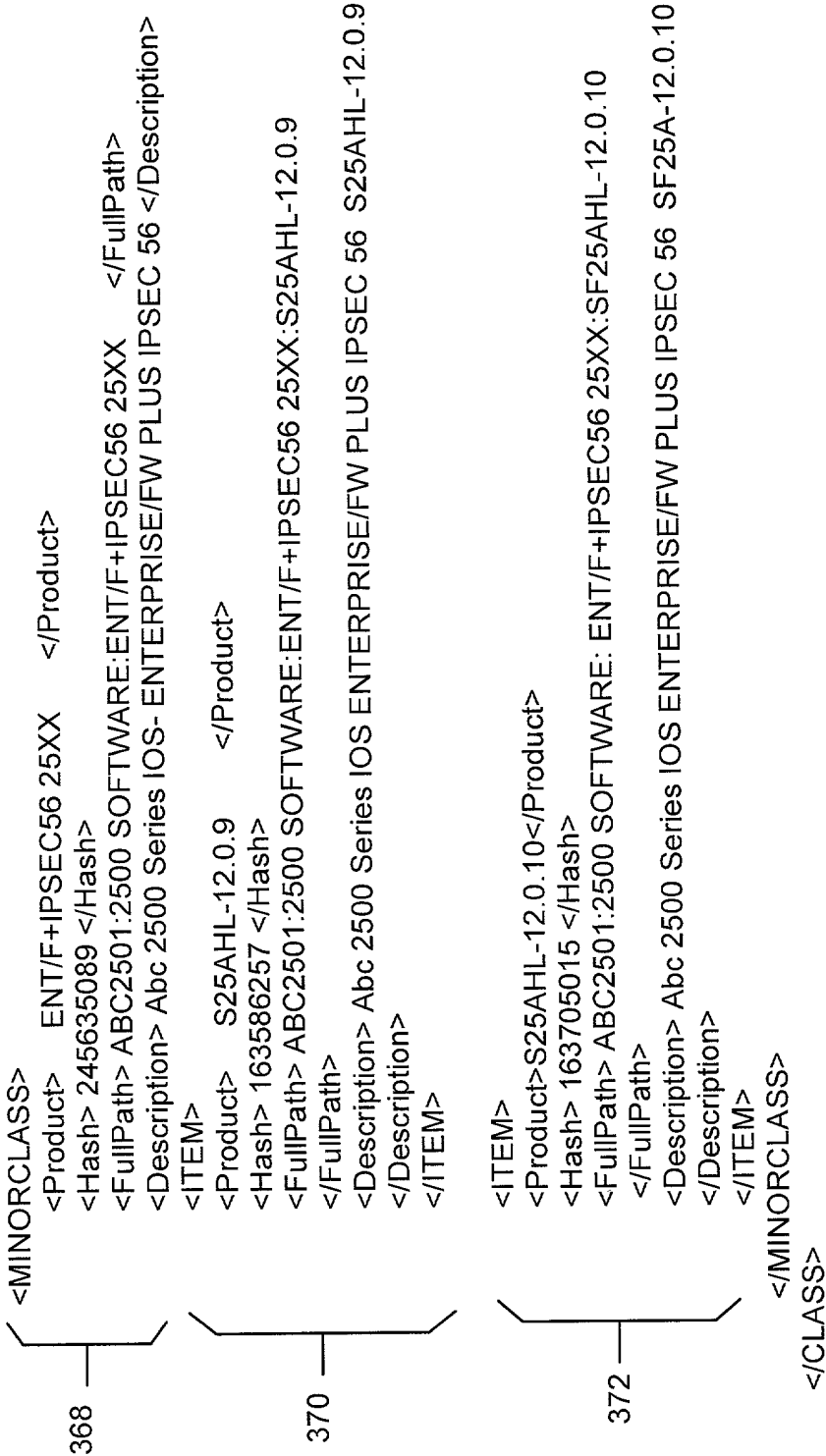


FIG. 7D

FIG. 7E is a diagram illustrating an XML structure for a product catalog. The structure is organized into two main sections, 374 and 376, which are grouped under a common header 330-5. Section 374 represents a single product entry, while section 376 represents a list of multiple product entries. The XML tags used include <CLASS>, <Product>, <Hash>, <FullPath>, <Description>, <ITEM>, <Response>, <Payload>, and </AbcXML>.

330-5



374 { <CLASS>
 <Product> C25K ROUTER DOCS </Product>
 <Hash> 163008415 </Hash>
 <FullPath> ABC2501:C25K ROUTER DOCS </FullPath>
 <Description> DOCUMENTATION </Description>
 </CLASS>

376 { <CLASS>
 <Product>C25K RACK MOUNT </Product>
 <Hash> 163223347 </Hash>
 <FullPath> ABC2501:C25K RACK MOUNT </FullPath>
 <Description> RACK MOUNT KITS</Description>
 <ITEM>
 <Product>ACS-2500RM-24</Product>
 <Hash> 107011873 </Hash>
 <FullPath>ABC2501:C25K RACK MOUNT:ACS-2500RM-24</FullPath>
 <Description>RACK-MOUNT KIT , 24 INCHES</Description>
 </ITEM>
 <ITEM>
 <Product> CAB-ACI </Product>
 <Hash> 71707034 </Hash>
 <FullPath> ABC2501:POWER CABLES:CAB-ACI </FullPath>
 <Description> Power Cord-Italian</Description>
 </ITEM>
 </CLASS>
 </Response>
 </Payload>
</AbcXML>

FIG. 7E